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AMERICAN BANKRUPTCY REPORTS, ANNOTATED. By WILLIAM MILLER COLLIER. Albany: Matthew Bender. 1899.

Ever since the passage of the National Bankruptcy Act in June, 1898, our Federal courts have been busy construing its various provisions. It practically superseded all state laws on the subject and thus made bankruptcy of exclusive Federal jurisdiction. Just at this time, not only to Federal court practitioners, but to lawyers at all bars, this volume is of great importance. The various clauses of the act have hardly received a settled interpretation and these cases are therefore of value to both judge and attorney. Probably the most striking portion of the work is found in the opinions of the referees, many of which have been carefully written out, together with their syllabi, by the referees themselves. The annotations, cross-references and indices are full and complete. Those who make a specialty of insolvency and bankruptcy should certainly have these reports near at hand. *J. M. D.*

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THE CUSTODY OF INFANTS. By LEWIS HOCHHEIMER. Baltimore: Harold B. Scrimger. 1899.

The prevalence of divorce suits however displeasing it may be to the moralist is a source of gratification to the lawyer, for it has resulted in a development of this particular part of the law of domestic relations. And this, too, to an extent never dreamed of by the common law lawyers, with their petitions to parliament and their stern probate judges. When the contending parties are released from the bonds of matrimony, the first question that arises is, who is to have the custody of the children, if there be any? To settle this vexing question, the book before us is of exceeding value. The cases cited are numerous and to the point, and the thought is clear, though not at times well expressed. We notice that the author has not placed in sufficiently close juxtaposition the two great rules—first, that in disposing of the custody of infants the court will always consider the welfare of the child, and, secondly, that the wishes of the child, if it is of reasonable age, will frequently determine the court's decision. The appendix contains forms presumably from the Maryland rules of court. On the whole the work is well worthy of perusal, being both interesting and instructive.

*J. M. D.*

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STUDIES IN STATE TAXATION. By GRADUATES AND STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY. Published in the Johns Hopkins Studies in Historical and Political Science. Series XVIII, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press. 1900.

This recent publication from our sister university is marked by the same careful research, thorough assimilation and clear presentation so noticeable in past productions of "Johns Hopkins." The authors, without sacrifice of force, have accomplished the difficult task of making interesting a proverbially dry subject.